

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-15 are currently pending, wherein claims 3, 10 and 16-20 have been canceled and claims 1 and 9 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 3 and 10 respectively.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 3 and 10 include allowable subject matter. Independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 3 and 10 respectively. Accordingly, claims 1 and 9, and claims 2, 4-8 and 11-15 which depend there from, are allowable over the prior art of record for at least those reasons set forth in paragraph 2 of the office action.

The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner for any reason find the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: February 7, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Rebecca Goldman Rudich
Registration No.: 41,786
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant